8/26/69

Dear Arthur,

Many things have happened since last we were in touch: I've had to slow down a bit; my work continues to be productive; and we are out of NCR paper again. And, a lecture bureau is offering me. We need the money very much, for daily our financial conditions deteriorates (inevitable), otherwise I'd not slow down work for speeches. If there are any. I have eschewed such activity since the Shaw fiasco and do not have any accurate way of measuring interest as it exists today. In groups rather than individuals, that is.

I have written a book-length addition to COUP D'ETAT, which is a large book to begin with. The addition is larger, not less than 150,000 words. This addition deals with the King/Ray case only. It is quite a shocker (and still Alice in Wonderland and The Purloined Letter). In the course of it I have been able to establish fruitful relationships of the kind I cannot now talk about, the kind it is hard to believe possible. More will, I think, flow from that. Something worthwhile and unusual is possible.

It is for this addition I need the paper. To do this will take about 500 final sheets and about 2,000 middle sheets. We have an adequate supply of first sheets. Can you help me? If you can see your way clear to supply more, we will use it, for I've two more books researched for when I clean this up.

My plans are as with the limited editions you read, to xerox and copyright the original and have it for offset if I can ever get the funds for printing. The NCR copies are for a working copy for me, an indexing copy, and for reading by others working in the field, for them to make suggestions to me and to learn what I have learned. We never touch the offset copy, else it get soiled. I cannot afford to xerox the copies I'd like to. It is frightfully expensive here and I dare not let the offset copy our of my possession, for the labo of duplicating it is too great. The other copies are not good for xeroxing.

The only meaningful work being done of which I know, and I think I'd know, is by two brilliant and decent graduate students, one of whom has a friend giving him excellent help. Mourn the land, Arthur, in which such a burden falls to three so inadequately equipped and so utterly alone. There is no significant help. Nor any interest by people in a position to give valuable help were they so disposed. Ordinary people still write me regularly, though. While it means much to hear from them, it is a burden to reply, as I do, to each letter.

Best regards and thanks for anything you may do.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg